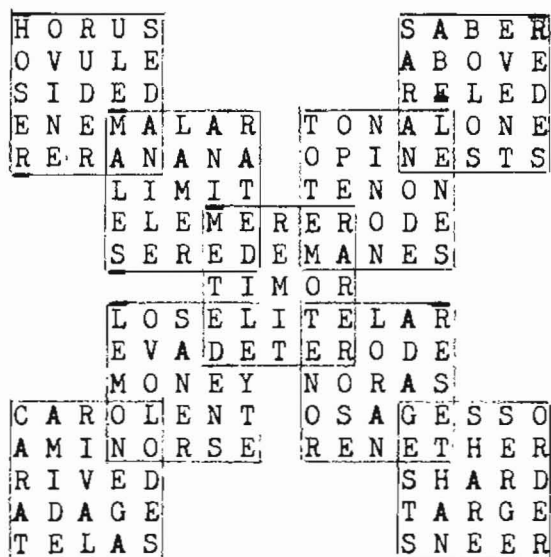
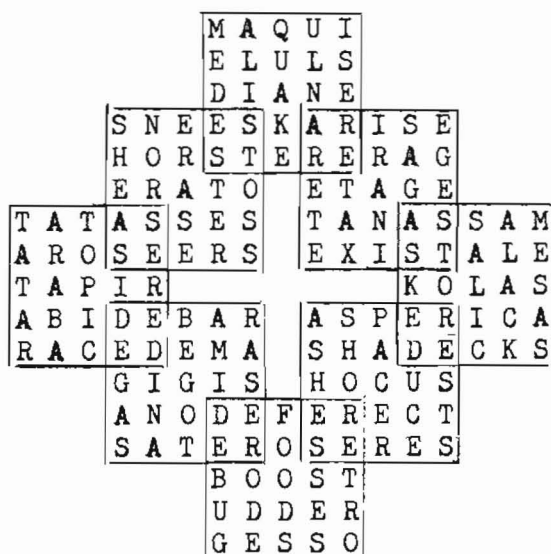


NOVELTY FORMS: TWO EXAMPLES

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Editor's Note: In the last fifty years, the construction of novelty forms (solid crossword arrays with unusual outlines) has almost died out. Three examples have appeared in previous issues of *Word Ways*: Palmer Peterson's *Hollow Diamond* (May 1971) and *Armless Man* (Feb 1980), and Walter Shedlofsky's *Windmill* (Aug 1973). (The latter occasionally appears in the *Enigma*, the monthly publication of the National Puzzler's League.) The two *Linking Word Squares* forms depicted below are believed to be new. There is nothing exactly like them in puzzle literature; the closest analogues are the *Cushion Square* and the *Hollow Diamond*. Note that all squares are double, and that no words are repeated within a pattern.





Definitions of unfamiliar words:

- abele - the white poplar
 amide - an organic compound
 anana - var. of ananas, the pineapple
 anile - old-womanish, infirm
 animé - a type of resin
 araba - a South American monkey
 arête - the crest of a mountain range, or ridge between peaks
 asper - a Turkish coin
 Assam - a state in India (Gazetteer section)
 bolos - plural of bolo, a single-edged knife
 debug - to eliminate error (Web 3)
 degas - to free from gas
 Edens - paradises (such as Eden)
 edile - var. of aedile, a Roman urban official
 eleme - a type of fig
 Eluls - plural of Elul, a month of the Jewish calendar
 Ethan - a masculine proper name
 Erato - the Muse of poetry
 Erica - a genus of evergreen shrubs
 erose - irregular, uneven
 eskar - a narrow ridge or mound of sand or gravel
 esses - plural of the letter S
 ester - an organic compound
 étage - floor of a building (Fr.)
 gesso - plaster of Paris, prepared for use in painting
 gests - plural of gest, something done or achieved
 Gigis - plural of Gigi, a feminine proper name
 hocus - to cheat, deceive
 horst - a block of the earth's crust, bounded by faults

- Horus - an Egyptian god
 hoser - one who hoses (a coinage, not in Webster)
 Irani - a native of Iran
 Isère - a river in France (Gazetteer section)
 kolas - plural of kola, a nut
 lenes - plural of lenis, a soft consonant (Phonetics)
 Leyte - a gulf in the Philippines (Gazetteer section)
 Loran - a long-range navigational system
 losel - a worthless person
 malar - pertaining to the cheek
 maqui - a Chilean shrub
 Medes - natives of ancient Media
 merer - the comparative of mere (rarely used, acc. to Webster)
 ninon - a fabric, as a silk voile
 Noras - plural of Nora, a feminine proper name
 olent - fragrant
 Onega - a Russian lake (Gazetteer section)
 ovolo - a rounded, convex molding
 raser - one who scrapes with a sharp object or tool
 redes - (he) makes ready, puts in order
 reled - past tense of relead, to lead once more
 renet - var. of rennet, a substance for curdling milk
 rerag - to bully once more (a coinage, not in Webster)
 reran - past tense of rerun, to show again (as a motion picture)
 retro - backward
 Salic - pertaining to a 4th-century Frankish people
 saran - a tough flexible thermoplastic (Web 3)
 sater - one who sates, satisfies (a coinage, not in Webster)
 Sered - a Biblical name
 seres - plural of sere, a claw or talon
 sheas - plural of shea, a tree
 snees - dirks
 stere - a cubic meter
 stoss - the side of a hill first overridden by a glacier
 tanas - plural of tana, a Sumatran squirrel shrew
 targe - to cross-question (Scot.)
 Tatar - a member of a Turkic group
 tatas - plural of ta-ta, good-bye (hyphenated in Webster)
 telar - pertaining to tissue
 telas - plural of tela, a tissue
 timor - dread (if capitalized, a Pacific island)
 ulema - a body of Moslem scholars trained in religion and law
 Edina - a city in Minnesota (Gazetteer section)